



Virginia Oral Health Coalition October 2015

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2015 Virginia Oral Health Summit

***Achievable Wellness:
Engaging Communities
and Clinicians for
Better Health***

Nov. 13 | Richmond

[Register Now](#)

CE credit will be provided for dental professionals, family physicians/PAs, nurses and social workers. Contact [Carrie Wampler](#) for details and sponsorship opportunities.

Virginia Oral Health Plan *We Need Your Feedback!*



The Virginia Oral Health Plan is intended to provide clear and comprehensive direction for stakeholders and organizations committed to oral health access, care, integration and education. With support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Virginia Oral Health Coalition partnered with the Virginia Department of Health to reinvigorate Virginia's oral health plan to ensure the plan reflects the current environment. In August, over 40 stakeholders gathered to make revisions; their feedback has been incorporated into the current plan, **but we still need to hear from you!** The goals of the plan remain the same:

- **Public Awareness:** *Virginians know that good oral health is essential to overall health*
- **Prevention/Early Diagnosis and Treatment:** *The prevalence of dental disease is reduced in Virginia through prevention activities and early diagnosis and treatment.*
- **Medical and Dental Collaboration:** *Medical and dental providers and educators understand the links between oral health and overall health and work together to ensure Virginians receive comprehensive care.*
- **Insurance and Reimbursement:** *Virginians have access to quality, affordable and comprehensive dental coverage.*
- **Workforce:** *The oral health workforce in Virginia adequately meets the needs of its citizens by working to the full extent of their*

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Workgroup Opportunities

Early Dental Home Action

Team: fosters information sharing and collaboration among organizations and agencies working with young children and pregnant women to increase access to oral health services and education.

The next meeting is Friday, December 4.

Kindergarten Dental Policy

Team: explores policy strategies to ensure that children have an established dental home by the time they enter kindergarten.

The next meeting is Wednesday, November 4.

Adult Dental Workgroup: explores policy strategies to increase dental care access for adults.

The first meeting is Monday, December 14.

If you are interested in participating in one or all of the workgroups, email [Carrie Wampler](#) for meeting details.

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Oral Health: Across the Agency

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) recently released an informational brief *Oral Health: Across the Agency* to highlight HRSA programs, from clinical care to workforce, that support oral health and integration.

Of note:

education and training.

Share Your Feedback!

Please take a moment to review the plan and provide feedback through the survey, below, by December 1.

[Click here to view the 2015-2020 Plan](#)

[Click here to complete the survey](#)

We appreciate your input!

Congratulations, SYNC Scholarship Recipients!

Congratulations to the VaOHC scholarship recipient team! VaOHC awarded a partial SYNC scholarship to support a health care team in their collaborative efforts to incorporate oral health into patient care, while deepening their partnership and leadership skills. Members of the team will provide updates throughout their experience, and VaOHC will facilitate a forum to share the outcome of the teams project.

Meet the team!



- Brian Dickens, DO, Chair of Family Medicine at the Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM)
- Lawrence Kyle, DDS, Dentist
- Watson Edwards, BSN, Director of Simulation at VCOM
- Kay Lucas, RN, M.E.d, Ed.S., Director of Standardized Patient at VCOM

SYNC is partnership between Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association, Virginia Nurses Association and the Medical Society of Virginia designed to engage emerging leaders in collaborative leadership development.

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- [Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Quality Improvement Initiative](#)
- [Integration of Oral Health and Primary Care Practice Report](#)
- [Oral Health and HIV - The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program](#)

[Read the entire brief](#) to view a wide selection of resources and publications, as well as data outcomes.

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Large Number of VA Voters Support Improving the ACA



A recent poll indicated that a large majority of Virginia voters support improving the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The survey had five main takeaways:

1. Likely voters believe the ACA is here to stay
2. They prefer a candidate who will keep the law and improve it
3. They value the outcomes of the law
4. They support a number of ideas to improve the law
5. They support expanding Medicaid

[Read the full survey report](#)

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NEW Virginia Public Health Training Center

The Institute for Public Health Innovation has become the

National Governors Association: Strategies to Improve Oral Health

The National Governors Association just released a report recommending three oral health interventions that improve oral health outcomes and save states' money:

- School-based dental sealant programs
- Community water fluoridation programs
- Routine application of fluoride varnish by primary care providers

The report also recommends that states consider alternative workforce strategies that support access to these interventions.

[Read the full report](#)

The National Governors Association (NGA) is the bipartisan organization of the nation's governors.

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Of Interest

Oral Health and Overall Health

Oral health and overall health are fundamentally intertwined. The following links present current information on how oral health is connected to overall health and well-being.

- [Oral Health and Heart Disease](#)
- [Oral Health and Alzheimer's Disease](#)
- [Oral Health and General Overall Health](#)

National Dental Hygiene Month

Virginia Performance site of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Public Health Training Center (PHTC).

[Learn more](#) about the PHTC, public health training centers, and potential workshops and courses.

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FLOSS DAILY
RINSE WITH MOUTHWASH
BRUSH 2X A DAY
CHEW SUGAR-FREE GUM



October is National Dental Hygiene Month! To promote oral health awareness, the Virginia Oral Health Coalition supports the American Dental Hygienists' Association's "Daily 4" oral health regimen: brushing twice a day, flossing, using an antimicrobial mouth rinse and chewing sugar-free gum when brushing is not an immediate option.

[View additional resources](#)

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